



San Diego CityFolk

A Guide to the
Folk and Traditional
Performing Arts
in San Diego



Produced by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture

2002



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Our Mission

The mission of the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture is to vitalize the city by integrating arts and culture into community life while supporting the region's cultural assets and showcasing San Diego as an international cultural destination.

Forward

San Diego's greatness is built on its diversity, a splendid treasure-trove of cultural expression in our region. Native American Kumeyaay Bird Singers, Norwegian and Irish bands, and world famous performers of Spanish flamenco dance are but a tiny example of the many forms of human creativity to be found in San Diego.

San Diego CityFolk: A Guide to the Folk and Traditional Performing Arts in San Diego is a continuation of a process started by the late University of California, San Diego ethnomusicologist, Dr. Marnie Dilling. It was her dream to create a single source of information on local musicians and dancers who carry on traditions often created far away from San Diego, especially those who pass on their knowledge to future generations.

San Diego is blessed with many diverse cultures. We hope that this guide serves as a tool to inform the public about San Diego's rich cultural talent and authenticity.

ELLEN B. WELLER, MA
ETHNOMUSICOLOGIST
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Introduction

Since its inception, the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture has worked to increase public access to, and knowledge and appreciation of a broad range of arts and cultural experiences. During the past decade, hundreds of outstanding folk and traditional artists from communities throughout San Diego have been featured in a wide range of public programs, including museum exhibitions, concerts, festivals, broadcasts, recordings, and educational programs of all kinds.

The Commission has long understood the need to support San Diego's living cultural heritage — people who live their art and embody tradition in our communities. We believe in the power of folk and traditional artists to further mutual understanding among different cultural groups, open doors to fresh artistic experiences and provide points of entry for new audiences to local programs.

San Diego CityFolk, like our first publication, *The World Music and Dance Scene in San Diego*, documents the abundance of artistic talent throughout our region. From Oceanside to Otay Mesa, from the east to the beach, we searched and found scores of folk and traditional artists who have fine-tuned their craft and are eager to share it with others.

Let the pages guide you to the community centers, neighborhood parks, street fairs and festivals where you will see, hear and feel what makes *San Diego CityFolk* artists so special.

VICTORIA L. HAMILTON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DR. VIVIAN REZNIK, CHAIR

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Music



"The accordion is an orchestral instrument because of its bellow sounds. An ensemble setting can virtually replicate the full rich sounds of an entire symphony with its string, woodwind, brass and bass sections."

— Joanne Pilgrim, Artistic Director

THE ACCORDION CONCERT ENSEMBLE OF SAN DIEGO

The Accordion Concert Ensemble of San Diego (ACE) is composed of six fine accordionists who study and perform classical and contemporary music. ACE performs approximately four times a year at accordion festivals, meetings and picnics. The goal of ACE is to perform some of the world's most beloved music in concert and informal settings.

Contact:

Joanne Pilgrim

4860 Ruffner Street Room 9

San Diego, CA 92111

Tel 858/637-6250

ACCORDION LOVER'S SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

Established in the late 1980s, the Accordion Lover's Society International uses traditional German, Scandinavian, Polish, Slovenen and Italian melodies to create a harmonious musical arrangement. The Society also plays American standards and patriotic music. You can listen to the group's unique rhythm and up-beat tempo at the Marine Corps Recruitment Depot and Balboa Park. Accordion Lover's Society International is also available for private performances.

**Contact:**

Kjell Holmes
4779 Cather Avenue
San Diego, CA 92122
Tel 858/453-5486

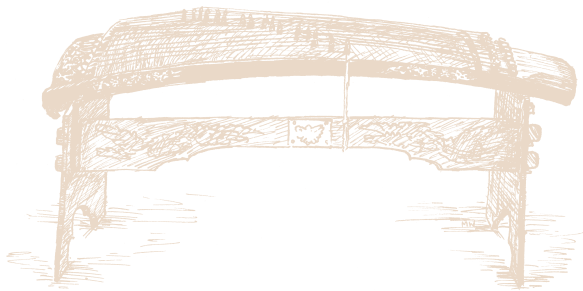
"The audience enjoys ethnic music and we enjoy playing a variety of music."

— Kjell Holmes, Artistic Director

Photo Credit: Sharon Marotte

“Music is a cultural way of expressing inner sentimental feelings.”

— Ping Auyeung, Artistic Director



PING AUYEUNG

Ping Auyeung's performance is not only soothing to the ear but it is visually remarkable. Plucking a string instrument called the Zheng or Chinese zither, Auyeung is able to create fast contemporary Chinese folk music. He has performed in Balboa Park and at the San Diego Buddhist Association.

Contact:

Ping Auyeung
4536 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92116
Tel 619/298-2800

THE BAVARIAN BEERGARDEN BAND

The Bavarian Beergarden Band blends the sounds of the trumpet, clarinet, tenor horn and accordion to create contemporary German music. They have performed at the La Mesa Oktoberfest, 6/A club in El Cajon, private parties and weddings.

Contact:

Joe Dyke

222 Highline Trail

El Cajon, CA 92021-4082

Tel 619/447-3403

Tel 619/965-7011

E-mail dutchman@sdcoe.kon2.ca.us

"The music itself is fun to play. I get to practice my German. I get to entertain people and see them having fun. It's very enjoyable. A chance to put on leather pants."

— Joe Dyke, Artistic Director

“I’ve always been interested in roots music because it’s unique to the personality of the player. It’s a more human experience, whether it’s blues or Celtic music.

— Brian Baynes, Artistic Director

BRIAN BAYNES

Brian Baynes plays Celtic tunes and other traditional Irish music. He studied piano and taught himself to play guitar, mandolin, and bouzouki. Baynes plays for corporate functions, festivals and workshops. He has also performed with the San Diego Symphony and Grossmont Symphony.

Contact:

Brian Baynes

Tel 619/465-6228

E-mail baynes@pacbell.net

BENEDETTI AND SUABODA GUITAR DUO

Benedetti and Suaboda Guitar Duo specialize in classic guitar. This guitar duo has been performing for 16 years and has released five CDs. Their musical style consists of Flamenco, Spanish classical, Gypsy, and Klezmer. The Benedetti and Suaboda Guitar Duo is available for festivals, concerts and private parties.

Contact:

Fred Benedetti and George Suaboda

11232 Alejo Lane

San Diego, CA 92124

Tel 858/560-7531

Tel 619/907-3163

E-mail haunach@aol.com

Web www.benedetti-suaboda.com

“We love playing this kind of music! We get to do a fair amount of improvising. It is very open music, compared to classical repertoire.”

— Fred Benedetti, Artistic Director



"I like the idea of bringing together musicians from both sides of the border. My dream is to have a truly binational orchestra."

— Bill Caballero, Artistic Director

BINATIONAL MAMBO ORCHESTRA

Binational Mambo Orchestra's invigorating Afro-Cuban sound is very unique. Formed in 1997, this collaborative group captures the vibrant energy of a tropical big band and the rhythmic flow of a jazz ensemble. Binational Mambo Orchestra has performed at The Tijuana Cultural Center, Museum Union fundraisers, Dizzy's, and La Casa de Cultura.

Contact:

Bill Caballero

1483 14th Street

Imperial Beach, CA 91932

Tel 619/944-0683

Photo Credit: Patricio Chavez

CONTRASTES

Contrastes combines the exotic sounds of musical instruments from around the world to create contemporary Latin American music. Artistic Director, Cynthia Hernandez has a very unique rhythmic style. Contrastes is known for its energetic shows and workshops.

Contact:

Cynthia Hernandez

3345 Gregory Street

San Diego, CA 92104

Tel 619/281-1066

E-mail cynthiahms@aol.com

Photo Credit: Dennis Dal Covey



"I like to buy musical instruments from places I visit. I try to play the music of every country with traditional instruments to keep the sound and the 'flavor' of the music."

— Cynthia Hernandez, Artistic Director

"Music is a gateway for adolescent issues. We can help children develop into strong individuals as well as musicians. Either way, it is about getting your rhythm together."

— Anthony Ackee, Artistic Director

CORNERSTONE

Cornerstone uses traditional African drums, keyboards, vocals, steel pans, guitars, donduns and djembes to create a warm lyrical sound. Their unique composition forms a musical cornucopia of African, Caribbean and Latin fusion. They conduct workshops and teach music on Saturdays at the Lemon Grove Community Center.

Contact:

Anthony Ackee

1645 San Miguel Avenue

Sea Valley, CA 91977

Tel 619/698-7493

E-mail babbackee@home.com

DARVAK

Darvak is a group of musicians that has been playing Iranian music in San Diego since 1985. Their goal — in addition to developing friendships and having fun making music — is to make Iranian music accessible to young people.

Contact:

Farhad Bahrami

7254 Arpege Road

San Diego, CA 92119

Tel 619/461-5427

E-mail darvak@home.com

Web www.geocities.com/darvaksd

"Iranian music is characterized by improvisation, introspection, and spirituality."

— Farhad Bahrami, Artistic Director

"We love sharing music and having a great time with everyone who comes to see us."

— Greg Callahan, Artistic Director

DIDGINUS

Voted one of the best alternative bands in San Diego by *The Reader*, this group combines African, Australian, Funk, Latin, Hip Hop, Ambient and other influences to create an exotic fusion that is danceable and fun for audiences of all ages and cultures. Didginus has released 3 CDs and performs at festivals, banquets and private parties.

Contact:

Greg Callahan

9265 Activity Road #103

San Diego, CA 92126

Tel 858/695-9000 x11

Web www.didginus.com

LUI GUOJING EVANS

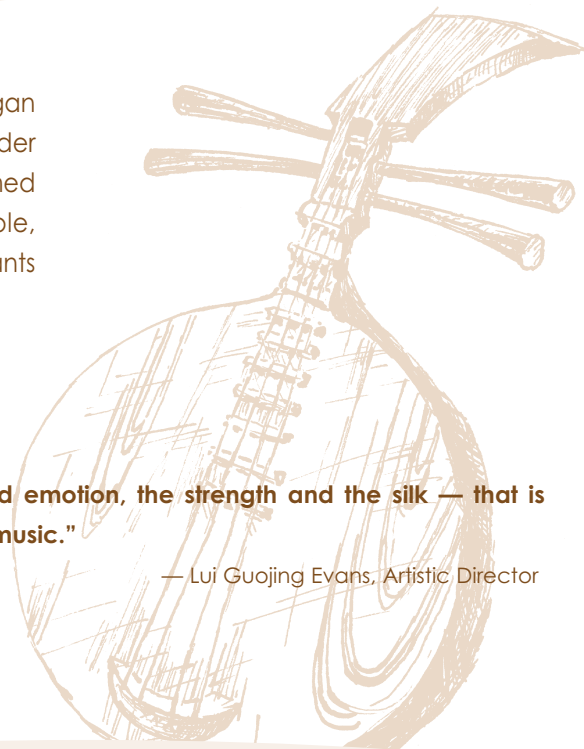
While studying in China in 1995, native San Diegan Lui Guojing Evans learned to play the zheng under the tutelage of a monk in Beijing. She has performed at the house of China, Xi Fang Buddhist Temple, Chinese Historical Museum, UCSD, and local restaurants and art galleries.

Contact:

Lui Guojing "Jing Jing" Evans
8926 Highland Drive
San Diego, CA 92119
Tel 619/246-8152
Fax 619/463-8260
E-mail guojing@hotmail.com
Web www.sdtaichi.com

"Power and emotion, the strength and the silk — that is gu zheng music."

— Lui Guojing Evans, Artistic Director



ZE DUARTE GARCIA

Born and raised in Portugal, Ze Duarte Garcia started studying Portuguese folk music at an early age. He has performed throughout California, the East Coast and Portugal. Garcia sings and plays guitar, bass and piano.

Contact:

Ze Duarte Garcia

Tel 619/221-5961

**“Portuguese music is not just about music.
You need to pay attention to the words as
well. Words have meaning.”**

— Ze Duarte Garcia, Artistic Director

GERMANIA CHOIR

Germania Choir sings traditional German music, old folk music, and contemporary German pop music. Germania Choir has performed in Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Francisco, Arizona and Washington D.C. The choir has also performed locally at Christmas on the Prado in Balboa Park, the International Festival in El Cajon, and at Oktoberfests.

Contact:

Vikki Stanfield

German American Society of San Diego

1017 Mollison Avenue

El Cajon, CA 92020

Tel 619/442-6637

“German music is good for the soul. ”

— Vikki Stanfield, Artistic Director

SAM HINTON

Sam Hinton is an internationally renowned performer of American folksongs. He plays guitar, accordion, harmonica, penny whistle, and “novelty instruments.” Sam currently performs primarily for schools but is also available for festivals and concerts.

Contact:

Sam Hinton
9420 La Jolla Shores Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037
Tel 858/453-0679
E-mail slhinton@aol.com

“What I’m trying to show is how much alike people are, that there’s not much difference, and the differences are things to be admired and enjoyed. I love music, and I love the humanity of music and the fact that it shows that we’re all basically the same.”

— Sam Hinton, Artistic Director

ISLAND FEVER

Island Fever delivers a vibrant sound using traditional steel pans from Trinidad with vocals, keyboards, saxophone, guitar, bass and percussion. You can hear their mixture of Caribbean, African, and Latin styles at Sea World, the San Diego Zoo and at the Wild Animal Park.

Contact:

Ron Nathan

Class Act Productions

3503 Ethan Allen Avenue

San Diego, CA 92117

Tel 619/291-1225

Fax 858/272-9883

E-mail island-fever@rocketmail.com

Web www.islandfever.com

Photo Credits: John Schulzy



"We're about sharing the music and culture of the Caribbean and Africa with Southern California. And we're into people having a good time and celebrating life."

— Ron Nathan, Artistic Director

"I grew up hearing Swedish music played by my grandfather. I continue to find it rhythmically and melodically challenging."

— Paul Johnson, Artistic Director

PAUL JOHNSON

Paul Johnson plays traditional Swedish music. He uses a violin, spilapipa and kohorn to make sweet sounding melodies. Johnson has performed at Balboa Park, folk festivals and weddings.

Contact:

Paul Johnson

4729 68th Street

La Mesa, CA 91941

Tel 619/235-3000 ext. 243

E-mail fiolpaul@att.net

RAHIS AHMED KHAN

Rahis Ahmed Khan's practice on the tabla (traditional Indian drums) has given him a strong sense of rhythm. He plays Indian classical and semi-classical, or ghazal music. Khan has performed by invitation with various musicians in New York, Houston, Atlanta and Los Angeles. He has given concerts in India, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates.

Contact:

Rahis Ahmed Khan

7705 Linda Vista Road Apt. 34

San Diego, CA 92111

Tel 858/614-0087

“Music is my life. If I am reborn, I want to be a musician because music is my everyday thing.”

— Rahis Ahmed Khan, Artistic Director

KUMEYAAY BIRD SINGERS

Kumeyaay Bird Singers are traditional Native American performers and ceremonial leaders. Artistic Director, Ron Christman is deeply committed to preserving and educating others on Kumeyaay cultural traditions. He wishes to make the presence of native peoples in San Diego County more visible and their traditional values better understood.

Contact:

Ron Christman
56 Viejas Grade Road
Alpine, CA 91901
Tel 619/445-0385

"I lead ceremonies because I like to help the people I'm around. I do this because I see a need among our people to change our way of thinking, to revive the traditions that have almost passed on and to continue the traditions we still have."

— Ron Christman, Artistic Director

LATIN SPICE

Mario Olivares and his band, Latin Spice, perform Spanish music, flamenco music, Latin jazz and contemporary jazz. Mario's guitar sound is a mixture of flamenco and Arabic melodies, romantic boleros, and a touch of Latin jazz based on Spanish classical guitar and contemporary jazz. Latin Spice has appeared on KUSI TV and can be heard on KIFM radio. Latin Spice is available for private performances, concerts and parties.

Contact:

Mario Olivares
2295 Needham Lane
El Cajon, CA 92026
Tel 619/515-1707
E-mail mario@marioolivares.com
Web www.marioolivares.com

**"Music is not only supposed to
sound good, but it's also supposed
to make you feel good."**

— Mario Olivares, Artistic Director



Photo Credit: Miguel Pizzaro



LORA LEE

Lora Lee is trained as a classical violinist, however she enjoys playing traditional Norwegian folk music on the Hardanger fiddle (8-stringed Norwegian violin). Her musical dialects are associated with various regions of Norway. She performs at traditional Norwegian weddings, parties, and at Scandinavian music festivals.

Artistic Director:

Lora Lee

2504 Blackton Drive

San Diego, CA 92105

Tel 619/527-0732

E-mail loralee1@prodigy.net

Photo Credit: Lorien Rice

"I love to play Norwegian music because it is part of my heritage and I want to be involved in passing it on to future generations."

— Lora Lee, Artistic Director

DAVID LENG

David Leng creates traditional Cambodian and other Asian instruments. They include Cambodian reeds, flutes, takehs (Cambodian lute), violins, drums and dulcimers. Leng started building these intricate instruments in 1983. Not only does he take pleasure from creating instruments but he also enjoys performing at Balboa Park and at multicultural fairs.

Contact:

David Leng

3725 Cameo Lane

San Diego, CA 92111

Tel 858/565-8421

E-mail toneka@juno.com

**"I make Cambodian instruments to
preserve my heritage."**

— David Leng, Artistic Director

"I like playing traditional guitar. It's about having loads of fun...that's the kind of attitude that seems to get dancers in a frenzy."

— John Odam, Artistic Director

LIME IN THE HARP

Lime in the Harp, led by Janet Ashford and John Odam, plays traditional Irish session tunes and Appalachian fiddle music. Innovations include Janet Ashford's original folk-style compositions and the use of non-traditional instruments such as the mandocello. Lime in the Harp performs at parties, festivals and contra-dances throughout California.

Contact:

John Odam
2163 Cordero Road
Del Mar, CA 92014
Tel 858/259-8230

LOS CALIFORNIOS

For over a decade, the San Diego-based group Los Californios has been researching and interpreting the music of 19th century Spanish and Mexican California. Los Californios not only presents this music, but also furthers the continuation of the traditions by providing educational workshops and instructing young musicians. Los Californios is a project of the San Diego Friends of Old-Time Music, a California 501c educational non-profit corporation.

Contact:

David Swarens

Los Californios

634 20th Street

San Diego, CA 92102

Tel 619/232-4475

E-mail loscalifornios@aol.com

Web www.jashford.com/calif.html

Photo Credit: Gary Turton



“Los Californios is working to preserve California's cultural heritage through the documentation, performance and teaching of music and dance from Spanish and Mexican California.”

— Vykki Mende Gray, Artistic Director

“Mariachi music is good for all occasions.”

— Rosalio Lopez, Artistic Director

MARIACHI ARRIBA

Mariachi Arriba offers a colorful and energetic presentation of traditional mariachi music. Using instruments like the trumpet, violin, vihuela and guitarron this group creates a very charismatic sound. They have performed at baptisms, anniversaries, weddings, parties, and funerals.

Contact:

Rosalio Lopez

2605 Avenida Logan Apt. 8

San Diego, CA 92113

Tel 619/236-0589

MARIACHI LA BARCA

This music ensemble includes six or seven violins, two vihuelas, two guitarrons, three trumpets and traditional harmonized vocals. Their mariachi styles include serenades, rancheros, ballads and dance music. Mariachi La Barca has performed at nightclubs, restaurants and festivals.

Contact:

Jesus Salvador Leon
2271 C Street Apt. 8
San Diego, CA 92102
Tel 619/233-6933
Fax 619/318-8966

**"We are a large mariachi band.
Our music is full of accompaniment
so that you can hear the beauty of
the music. We love to play and
that's why we do it!"**

— Jesus Salvador Leon, Artistic Director



"I like my music. I wish to have a Mexican folk music school. It would teach mariachi music to the whole world."

— Ramon Parra, Artistic Director

MARIACHI MEXANISIMO TAPATIO

Ramon Parra started playing mariachi music at age 16. He has played with numerous groups all over the United States and he founded Mariachi Mexanisimo Tapatio in 1986. Mariachi Mexanisimo Tapatio plays at La Mission Restaurant in Oceanside, as well as weddings, parties, and festivals throughout San Diego.

Contact:

Ramon Parra

3713 Palo Verde Way

Oceanside, CA 92056

Tel 760/726-7788

MARIACHI REAL DE SAN DIEGO

Mariachi Real de San Diego has appeared in three movies, performed at the GOP convention, the Balboa Parks Expo 2000, and the World Scene in San Diego. The group's current leader, Pedro Gonzalez, learned the mariachi tradition from his father and grandfather, who are from the Mexican state of Jalisco.

Contact:

Pedro Gonzalez
1784 Hampton Court
Bonita, CA 91902
Tel 619/421-7906
Fax 619/482-9201



"We play traditionally because we don't want to lose our cultural heritage. We're working on a CD with the old versions of the Mexican sonnet. They are the backbone of mariachi music."

— Pedro Gonzalez, Artistic Director

Photo Credit: Manny Cavada

“For the mariachi concerto, I want to write music that's innovative and new.”

-Jeff Nevin, Artistic Director

JEFF NEVIN

Jeff Nevin is a composer, teacher, mariachi trumpet player, and founder of Mariachi Champana Nevin. He started playing the trumpet when he was 10 years old. Nevin has a doctorate in composition from UCSD. He is the author of Virtuoso Mariachi, and co-composer of the world's first Concerto for Mariachi and Orchestra, commissioned by the La Jolla Symphony for the Mariachi Sol de Mexico.

Contact:

Jeff Nevin

Tel 619/482-6372 ext. 5378

E-mail jeff@virtuosomariachi.com

Web virtuosomariachi.com

BORA OZKOK

Bora Ozkok performs traditional Turkish folk music using the zurna (oboe), ney (pipe flute), drum, zils (metal cymbals) and wooden spoons. Considering it his personal mission to act as a goodwill ambassador for his native Turkey, Ozkok also gives classes and lectures on Turkish culture throughout the United States.

Contact:

Bora Ozkok

9939 Hilbert Street Suite 207

San Diego, CA 92131-1031

Tel 800/935-8875

Photo Credit: Richard Callard



"It is important to preserve Turkish heritage through dance, music and lectures."

— Bora Ozkok, Artistic Director



"Usually, children have never seen an accordion, let alone heard one. But, they soon understand the joyfulness of the music. Our music sounds different but happy!"

— Rena Watton, Artistic Director

THE POLKA DOTS

From polkas to serene religious favorites, The Polka Dots have performed in a range of venues, from kindergarten classes to retirement communities. The Polka Dots are also involved in continuing their musical education in classical ensemble works and ethnic and swing pieces. The Polka Dots' quest for the perfectly happy note is endless!

Contact:

Rena Watton
5860 Hampton Street
San Diego, CA 92120
Tel 619/583-6993

Photo Credit: Evie Carlson

SALTICAR

Salticar is a five-piece instrumental group that plays Bolivian, flamenco and gypsy music. Salticar's eloquent vocals and spirited sound can be heard at local restaurants, festivals and private engagements.

Contact:

Joey Veizaga
8623 Fiona Way
Santee, CA 92071
Tel 619/ 583-7225

“Music is a tool that brings people together.”

— Joey Veizaga, Artistic Director

"The highlight of my musical life has been the good fortune of having a close association with great spiritual masters in India and some of the greatest musicians of modern India."

— Prem Trikannad, Artistic Director

SATSANG FOUNDATION

The Satsang Foundation uses instruments such as the harmonium, cymbals and tabla to play Indian devotional melodies and traditional bhajans music. The Satsang Foundation has performed at Krishna Janmashtami Festival and the Hare Krishna Temple in Pacific Beach. In addition to performing, the Satsang Foundation hosts prayer or devotional ceremonies weekly.

Contact:

Prem Trikannad
11445 Vela Drive

San Diego, CA 92126

Tel 858/566-6027

E-mail prem@trikannad.com

Web www.satsangfoundation.org

SECOND AVENUE KLEZMER ENSEMBLE

Second Avenue Klezmer Ensemble performs Yiddish music, Eastern European Jewish and Judeo-Spanish music. Instruments they use include the clarinet, guitar, bass, drums and vocals. Co-founded by vocalist Deborah Davis and clarinetist Robert Zelickman, the ensemble has toured extensively around the west coast.

Contacts:

Deborah Davis and Robert Zelickman

1411 Nashville Street

San Diego, CA 92110-3137

Tel 619/275-1539

Fax 619/275-2243

E-mail ddavis9@san.rr.com

Web www.secondavenueklezmer.com

Photo Credit: Bob Davis



"We are trying to keep this music alive by sharing our roots with others. The soul of Klezmer is universal in the way it touches the hearts of all people."

— Deborah Davis, Artistic Director

SEMISI AND FULA BULA

Directed by Semisi Ma'u, this group mixes Tongan rhythms, Hawaiian vibrations and a modern rock sound to create an eclectic musical style. This Polynesian rock band incorporates unique instruments like the ukulele, nose flute, banjo, and horn, with traditional instruments like the violin, drums, guitar and double base. Semisi and Fula Bula has performed at Charger games, weddings, restaurants, festivals, and private parties.

Contact:

Semisi Ma'u

5122 Leon Street

Oceanside, CA 92057

Tel 760/439-2235

E-mail bula2u@nctimes.net

"Bula is an attitude of acceptance, where interaction is modified moment by moment to achieve a unique synergy, that preserves and expresses our individual cultural interpretations."

— Semisi Ma'u, Artistic Director

AMAN SHAMEL

Aman Shamel performs Afghan folk and popular music characterized by traditional Afghan rhythms. He sings and plays harmonium and panpova (bass). Shamel began studying music at the age of five. He studied in Tehran and at San Diego State University. He has performed in several festivals, including the Los Angeles Film Festival, the Freedom Art Festival and the Friendship Art Festival.

Contact:

Aman Shamel
10715 Escobar Drive
San Diego, CA 92124
Tel 858/565-4045

“Music is telling us more than what we listen to on the outside. It’s telling us about the secret of the universe.”

— Aman Shamel, Artistic Director



SHOKEN-JI TAIKO

Shoken-ji Taiko is a Japanese-American drumming group. Influenced by Japanese tradition, the style is uniquely Japanese-American, due to the incorporation of Indian, Native American and African-American influences. Main instruments include josuke taiko (medium-size drum), odaiko (large drum) and shime daiko (small, high-pitched drum). Shoken-ji Taiko performs for cultural, community and educational events.

Contacts:

Ford and Terri Omori
Vista Buddhist Temple
150-B Cedar Road
Vista, CA 92083
Tel 760/724-3360
Fax 760/941-3231

“Through Shoken-ji Taiko, the drummers learn to have a greater understanding of the Buddhist teachings and to develop a deeper awareness of themselves.”

— Ford Omori, Artistic Director

SIAMSA GAEL CEILI BAND

Siamsa Gael Ceili Band performs very traditional Irish music. The instrumental sounds of the uilleann bagpipes, tenor banjo, fiddle and flute are similar to music heard in Ireland during the 1920s and 1930s. Siamsa Gael Ceili Band is available for concerts and school workshops.

Contact:

John Tuohy

9291 Lavell Street

La Mesa, CA 91941

Tel 619/697-3523

"I find traditional Irish music an extraordinary compelling, subtle, and almost spiritual type of music. This music has a long history. There is a lot of magic in the music, especially in my four bandmates. It's really satisfying to play with them."

— John Tuohy, Artistic Director

“Performing music enhances my reality.”

— Jose Smith, Artistic Director

JOSE SMITH

Jose Smith performs Latin American folk songs and original compositions on an authentic, handcrafted Paraguayan folk harp. He also plays the guitar, keyboard and saxophone. Smith performs at concerts, bookstores, schools, weddings and workshops.

Contact:

Jose Smith

148 Magnolia Avenue

Ramona, CA 92065

Tel 760/789-7818

E-mail jose@josesmith.com

Web www.josesmith.com

MERJA SORIA

Merja Soria performs traditional Finnish music on a kantele harp and accordion. Her traditional vocal styles hearken from east Finland, and recall traditional Bavarian songs. Soria has been featured on many radio and television programs across the country and has opened for concerts and symphonies such as the Los Angeles Philharmonic. She has also performed at the Smithsonian.

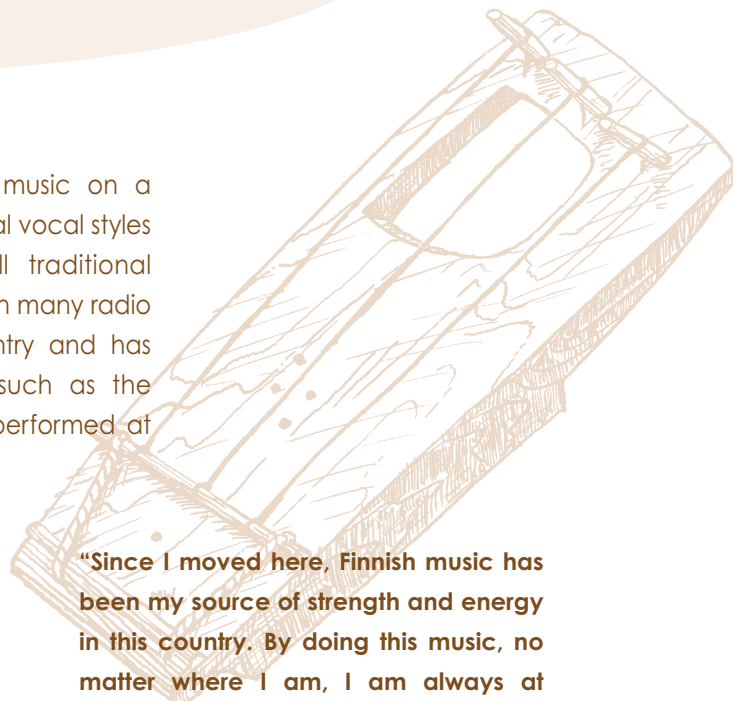
Contact:

Merja Soria

PO Box 153242

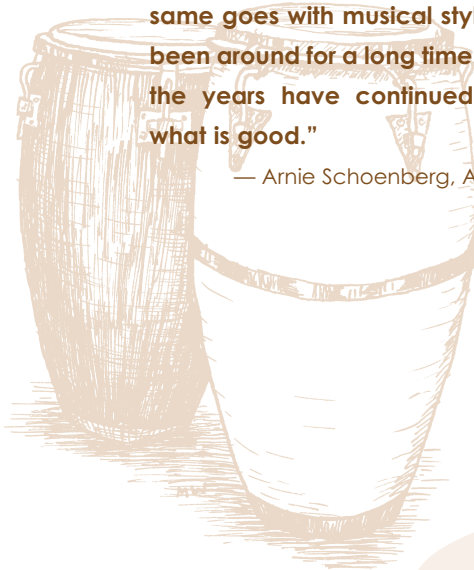
San Diego, CA 92195-3242

Web www.merjasoria.com



"Since I moved here, Finnish music has been my source of strength and energy in this country. By doing this music, no matter where I am, I am always at home."

— Merja Soria, Artistic Director



“As in agriculture with seed selection, after hundreds of generations plants grow there for a really good reason. The same goes with musical styles that have been around for a long time. People over the years have continued to listen to what is good.”

— Arnie Schoenberg, Artistic Director

THE SUPER SONIC SAMBA SCHOOL

The Super Sonic Samba School is a group that performs and teaches a range of musical styles based on traditional Brazilian carnival music. Original compositions include a mix of ska, rock and acid jazz in a Brazilian style. In addition to giving educational workshops and presentations around Southern California, The Super Sonic Samba School has performed in clubs, festivals and parades.

Contact:

Arnie Schoenberg
3345 Gregory Street
San Diego, CA 92104-4751
Tel 619/281-1066
E-mail soniquiero@aol.com

TAYAMA KOTO ENSEMBLE

Tayama Koto Ensemble is made up of 24 koto players. The koto is a harp-like zither that produces a pure musical tone. Scraping and hitting the strings with the plectra are two special techniques of koto that this ensemble utilizes.

Contact:

Emiko Tayama

6796 Greenbriar Court

San Diego, CA 92120

Tel 619/286-7276

E-mail tayamah@juno.com

“Tayama Koto Ensemble has played in Balboa Park, churches, schools and senior centers around the city. We also offer training in playing the koto.”

— Emiko Tayama, Artistic Director

**“It's a way of experiencing the relationship
with the creator.”**

— Janusz Supernak, Artistic Director

WARSAW ENSEMBLE

The Warsaw Ensemble performs traditional Polish folk music. Artistic Director, Janusz Supernak learned Polish music growing up at home. The Warsaw Ensemble uses vocals, the accordion and piano to create a festive sound. The Warsaw Ensemble performs at Polish heritage events, festivals and schools.

Contact:

Janusz Supernak

4905 Caminito Exquisito

San Diego, CA 92130

Tel 619/259-1443

E-mail supernak@mail.sdsu.edu

THE WAVES

The Waves, formed in Greece in 1984, performs Arabic folk and classical dance music. This band's Chaldean style includes modern elements such as Latin beats. The Waves performs at weddings, anniversaries, church celebrations and festivals.

Contact:

Sam Kiryakos

1128 Marlin Avenue Suite A

El Cajon, CA 92021

Tel 619/441-0521

“Music is a universal language that we can all share.”

— Sam Kiryakos, Artistic Director

ZYDECO BLUEZ PATROL

The Zydeco Bluez Patrol's unique sound is a blend of traditional Cajun and Zydeco music with the blues. This band performs using the diatonic Cajun-style button accordion, keyboard accordion and fiddle. They also sing in the original Cajun French dialect of southwestern Louisiana. Zydeco Bluez Patrol enjoys performing at celebrations around San Diego.

Contact:

"Zydeco T" Theo Bellows

2930 1/2 Mission Boulevard

San Diego, CA 92109

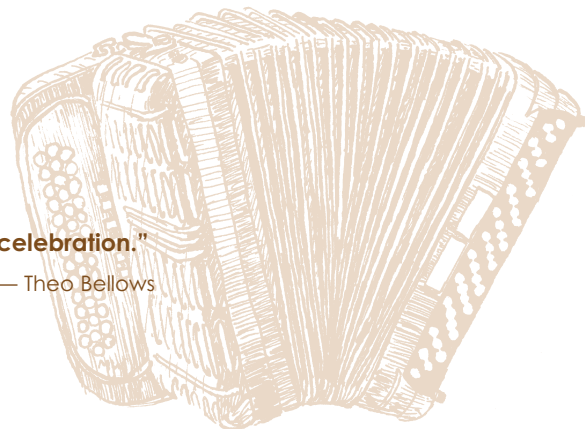
Tel 619/539-0579

E-mail zydecoT@aol.com

Web www.ZydecoPatrol.com

"Life is a celebration."

— Theo Bellows



Dance





ANCIENT ECHOES DANCE THEATRE

Ancient Echoes Dance Theatre presents the artistic vision of Arabic belly dancer Luisa. Her stylish dances include traditional moves from the Mediterranean, India, Eastern Europe and North Africa. Luisa has performed in the Middle East, throughout the United States, and Mexico.

Contact:

Luisa

PO Box 33853

San Diego, CA 92163-3853

Tel 619/299-1129

E-mail ritaluisa@aol.com

Photo Credit: Pamela Knudson

"Arabic dance has been compared to Oriental art. The dancer evokes passion and feeling through flowing arabesques, intricate hip patterns and endless waves of motion."

— Luisa, Artistic Director

BALLET FOLKLORICO FIESTA MEXICANA

For ten years Ballet Folklórico Fiesta Mexicana has been using dance as a tool to educate San Diego's children about Mexican culture. The group has performed at many schools and festivals around the city.

Contact:

Eva Pacheco

551 Herbert Street

El Cajon, CA 92020

Tel 619/593-7047

"I came to this country ten years ago. When my children were in 5th and 6th grade, I was a volunteer in the classroom. They taught nothing about Mexican culture, so I started a group. "

— Eva Pacheco, Artistic Director



"I love culture, I love music, I love dance. I like to play with the beautiful steps, sounds, dresses, and choreography. I'm never too tired to dance."

— Mary Lopez, Artistic Director

BALLET FOLKLORICO JALISCIENCE

Ballet Folklórico Jalisciense offers a rich tradition of Mexican folk dances from over ten different states. This energetic ensemble has been performing since 1984. Their members range from age six to age 32. They have performed for the San Diego Dance Alliance, Institute for the Arts, Biblioteca in Tijuana, Casa de Cultura and Evero Americano.

Contact:

Mary Lopez

3521 Vista Lane

San Ysidro, CA 92173

Tel 619/662-2845

E-mail letyoseguera@att.net

Photo Credit: Jose Cruz

BALLET MI BOLIVIA

Journey to the heart of Bolivia with Ballet Mi Bolivia. This vibrant dance group performs traditional Bolivian folk dances like the “Caparales” under Artistic Director Lyla Veizaga. This group has performed at the El Cajon Friendship Festival and at religious functions.

Artistic Director:

Lyla Veizaga
8623 Fiona Way
Santee, CA 92071
Tel 619/449-6200

“I want the world to know that Bolivia has its original folkloric dance. ”

— Lyla Veizaga, Artistic Director

**“Chicano-Azteca dance is a conscious effort
to recover part of our Mexican heritage.”**

— Mario Aguilar, Artistic Director

DANZA MEXI'CAYOTL

Danza Mexi'Cayotl uses dance to celebrate the Chicano-Azteca heritage. Traditional routines, such as the Chicano-Azteca dance circle, capture the rich history of Mexico. Danza Mexi'Cayotl has performed at many festivals and celebrations throughout the U.S. and Mexico.

Contact:

Mario Aguilar

PO Box 4052

Chula Vista, CA 91909-4052

Tel 619/691-1044

Tel 619/422-6433

E-mail chilango@aguila-blanca.com

DANZA OCEOLOTL

Under the artistic direction of Felipe Rangel, Danza Oceolotl has performed at monthly Aztec ceremonies across California. In 1981, the Aztec elders in Mexico City recognized Felipe Rangel as an accomplished artist in Aztec dance and ritual tradition. This dynamic dance group uses leg rattles, conch shells and reed flutes to add an authentic sound to their ethnic dance steps.

Contact:

Felipe Rangel

PO Box 5061

Oceanside, CA 92052-5061

Tel 619/525-7774

"I know the arts can instill in the artist self-discipline, leadership, self-pride, and ethnic pride, which are qualities that enhance a person."

— Felipe Rangel, Artistic Director

DEVIN SLOVAK HERITAGE DANCERS

Devin Slovak Heritage Dancers perform conventional dance styles from Slovakia, demonstrating the harmony between dance couples that is so very important in traditional Slovakian village folk dancing. Devin Slovak Heritage Dancers have performed at weddings, Balboa Park and the El Cajon Youth festival.

Contact:

Daniele Laman

4615 Winona Avenue

San Diego, CA 92115

E-mail mlaman@home.com

"It is our family heritage. I enjoy dancing. It's good to teach young people the traditions from the old country — to pass on some of the traditions."

— Daniele Laman, Artistic Director

GOL SANAM INSTITUTE

The Gol Sanam Institute teaches Iranian folk and modern Persian dances. Incorporating ballet and modern movement with traditional style gives this dance group a distinct presence. Movement of the hips, arms, face and eyes is emphasized. Dancers from Gol Sanam Institute perform at cultural celebrations, schools, and universities.

Contact:

Zoha Fazel

10545 Caminito Glenellen

San Diego, CA 92126

Tel 858/578-5848

Fax 858/558-0710

“My art is very spiritual. It is connected to God. It is not only listening to music but also letting the body do the movements. So I like to think of my art as a spiritual experience, not just dancing. That is how I teach it, and wish to bring it to American communities.”

— Zoha Fazel, Artistic Director

“African dance is food for the soul. African dance brings people together in a wholesome atmosphere, thus strengthening the community as well as the individual.”

— Nikola Clay, Artistic Director

GUINEE FARE

Guinee Fare performs dances from Guinea, Senegal, Mali and Sierra Leone. Artistic Director and choreographer, Nikola Clay has studied African dance since 1987 in California, New York, Paris, Stockholm and Guinea. Guinee Fare performs at school assemblies and workshops.

Contact:

Nikola Clay

966 Passiflora Avenue

Leucadia, CA 92024

Tel 760/942-9927

Fax 760/632-2618

E-mail guineefare@home.com

Web www.fore-fote.com

JEAN KALANI DANCERS

Born and raised in Hawaii, Jean Kalani began her study of hula at age seven. She formed her halau (school) in Chula Vista in the late 1970s. Jean Kalani Dancers practice ancient and modern Hawaiian hula. They have performed at the Pacific Island Festival and other private Hawaiian social events.

Contacts:

Jean Kalani and Myrtle Beamer
587 Oaklawn Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910-5105
Tel 619/426-6367

“Hula dancing is fun for all ages.”

— Jean Kalani, Artistic Director



"In spite of the history of Lithuania, none of the dances portray war. It's a way for us to share our own culture and traditions with our friends in a non-political way."

— Stanley Milas, Artistic Director

JURA (THE SEA) LITHUANIAN FOLK DANCE

Stanley Milas formed Jura Lithuanian Folk Dance two years ago. This group has performed in Ontario, Canada and at the Lithuanian Dance Festival in Mississauga. Recently, the group was selected from a poll of 50 dance groups to perform at the 9th Annual Nations of San Diego International Dance Festival.

Contact:

Stanley Milas

3339 Foscas Street

Carlsbad, CA 92009

Tel 760/753-1256

E-mail milasiusg@aol.com

Photo Credit: Charles Leonas

THE KINHAL SISTERS

The Kinhal Sisters perform Bharata Natyam (traditional south Indian classical dance) and Kuchipudi (another Indian classical dance form). The Kinhal Sisters sometimes incorporate jazz movements and perform with ballet dancers. They have performed at cultural events in India, Los Angeles and San Diego.

Contacts:

The Kinhal Sisters
8908 Donaker Street
San Diego, CA 92129
Tel 858/538-4312
E-mail sheelakinhal@eudoramail.com

**“We derive a great sense of fulfillment
whenever we perform and hopefully the
audience receives the same sense of
fulfillment.”**

— The Kinhal Sisters, Artistic Directors

“I’m doing samba because I like to keep Brazilian culture alive. I really love what I’m doing. I want people to be happy. It comes from the heart.”

— Maria Lane, Artistic Director

MARIA LANE

Maria Lane performs and teaches samba, lambada, bolero, cha cha, gafiera and malabarismo. After winning a dance contest, she studied at a samba school in Brazil. She has performed Latin American dance in Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Japan.

Contact:

Maria Lane

6333 College Grove Way

San Diego, CA 92115

Tel 619/583-6194

**LIAM HARNEY ACADEMY IRISH DANCE
& LIAM HARNEY IRISH DANCE COMPANY**

Led by Artistic Director Kevin Patterson, this vibrant dance group combines traditional and progressive Irish steps to form a uniquely expressive dance assembly. Liam Harney Irish Dance Company has performed in a variety of venues around the world, from weddings to festivals. This dance group is also known for the acclaimed tour "Celtic Fusion."

Contact:

Kevin Patterson

4580-B Alvarado Canyon Road

San Diego, CA 92120

Tel 619/282-9889

E-mail Mail@celticfusion.com

Web www.liamharney.com

"I look to San Diego as a new frontier that offers the opportunity to bring Irish dance to the people as an art form that they can appreciate. You don't have to be Irish to enjoy this."

— Kevin Patterson, Artistic Director



MELEAH

Meleah has studied dance from Egyptian and American teachers over the past 17 years. Her creative and highly energetic choreography combines fundamental ballet, tap, jazz and gymnastics moves with conventional Egyptian folk dance. She performs regularly in Arabic or Greek nightclubs, restaurants, private parties and festivals.

Contact:

Meleah

1923 Morena Boulevard

San Diego, CA 92110

Tel 619/280-8424

Fax 619/255-4575

E-mail meleahandco@home.com

Web www.meleah.com

**"My dance is portraying the
pure joy of creative, beautiful
movement."**

— Meleah, Artistic Director

Photo Credit: Keith Drosin

NAPUA ILIMA 'O KEHUALANI

Napua Ilima 'O Kehualani, under the direction of Kumu Hula Kehualani Wilson, specializes in the performance of ancient and modern Hawaiian hula as well as Tahitian, Samoan and Maori dance. The group enjoys performing at weddings, festivals and educational benefits.

Contact:

Kehualani Wilson

925 Hale Place Suite B-14

Chula Vista, CA 91914-3500

Tel 619/708-2544

Fax 619/428-6262

E-mail napuailima@yahoo.com

**“Our goal has always been to spread the
‘spirit of aloha’ throughout the community.
Napua Ilima ‘O Kehualani Studio is the ‘vessel’
we use to spread that spirit.”**

— Kehualani Wilson, Artistic Director



**"The purpose of my work is to preserve
African dance forms and to perpetuate
African culture."**

— Dennis Newsome, Artistic Director

DENNIS NEWSOME

Dennis Newsome is the director of Contra-Mestre a dance company that performs a fast and aggressive form of capoeira, an Afro-Brazilian dance/martial art form. Hand clapping and African-Brazilian instruments such as the pandeiro (similar to tambourine), agogo bells, congas and berimbau (a musical bow) accompany the capoeira dances.

Contact:

Dennis Newsome

PO Box 128623

San Diego, CA 92112-8623

Tel 619/338-6363

Fax 619/263-9152

E-mail preto-velho@malandros-touro.com

Web www.malandos-touro.com

Photo Credit: Ruth Watson

ORGULLO BORICUA

Formed by Vincenza Torres, this Puerto Rican dance group has some very creative moves. Each one of the 22 dance members took part in developing the choreography. Orgullo Boricua has performed at Dia de San Juan and the El Cajon Friendship Festival.

Contact:

Vincenza "Vinny" Torres

1508 Tarleton Street

Spring Valley, CA 91977

Tel 619/697-8496

E-mail pur14@prodigy.net

"My philosophy was to get the children involved. We have a Puerto Rican culture, which has a variety of influences including African-American and Latino. It is different. You don't have to go all the way to Puerto Rico to see this, you can see it right here."

— Vinny Torres, Artistic Director

THE PATNAIK SISTERS

The Patnaik Sisters, Laboni, Shibani and Shalini, perform and teach Odissi-style classical Indian dance. One of the seven Indian classical dance styles, the Odissi is a graceful dance form from the Indian state of Orissa. The Patnaik Sisters have given dance workshops, demonstrations and performances throughout the United States and Canada.

Contacts:

The Patnaik Sisters
2225 9th Street
Olivenhain, CA 92024
Tel 760/436-8277

“Dancing is a good way to keep our culture.”

— The Patnaik Sisters, Artistic Directors

PERUVIAN DANCE GROUP

The Peruvian Dance Group is comprised of 15 people who have been dancing together for ten years. Live musicians playing instruments such as the flute, samponas, charango, cajon and guitar accompany the Peruvian folk dances. The Peruvian Dance Group has performed at UCSD, USIU and the International Dance Festival.

Contact:

Nelly Centurion

3636 5th Avenue Apt. 204

San Diego, CA 92103

Tel 619/296-9579

E-mail ngcenturio@aol.com

“We are trying to help students by sharing our Peruvian culture. Our purpose is to show our unique Peruvian culture to San Diego and the North American community in general.”

— Nelly Centurion, Artistic Director

"This is a tradition that shouldn't be forgotten. If you forget your past, you forget where you are going in the future. "

— Gualter Moura, Artistic Director

PORTUGUESE AMERICAN DANCERS

Portuguese American Dancers is a traditional dance group that was established in the early 1940s. This dance company has performed at Disneyland, the Los Angeles Convention Center, Balboa Park and many Portuguese community events.

Contact:

Gualter Moura
5634 Charter Avenue
San Diego, CA 92120
Tel 619/582-3727

PUALANI'S HULA STUDIO

Pualani's Hula Studio teaches ancient and modern Hawaiian hula, Tahitian dance, and Maori dance. Their dancers perform at luaus, educational programs, social gatherings and other events in San Diego. If you want to learn how to hula, the door to Pualani's Hula Studio is open to everyone. Programs are customized to suit a client's budget.

Contacts:

Barbara and Karen Finnerman

8417 Pallux Way

San Diego, CA 92126

Tel 858/566-8045

Fax 858/271-1201

E-mail auntiepua@aol.com

"The hula to me is the lifeline of a very vibrant and beautiful people. It is the soul of Hawaii. It is so wonderful to see it still growing and spreading and seeing that the language, the arts and the heritage are being told in the hula."

— Barbara Finnerman, Artistic Director

“It’s important to preserve our culture and present it in an authentic manner and break the old stereotypes.”

— Gilbert Sanchez' Allrunner, Artistic Director

THE RED EAGLE DANCERS

The Red Eagle Dancers have performed at over 150 events. This authentic Native American intertribal dance group performs customary dances such as the Eagle dance and the Fancy War dance. The Red Eagle Dancers have performed in Finland, Sweden and Amsterdam. Locally they have performed at many casinos, festivals and private engagements.

Contact:

Gilbert Sanchez' Allrunner

3549 College Avenue

San Diego, CA 92115

Tel 619/922-7276

E-mail gsreadygo@aol.com

SENEGAL CASAMANCE BALLET PRODUCTION COMPANY

Senegal Casamance Ballet Production Company explores a form of ballet called South Senegalese dance, which originated from the Djoula tribe in Gambia. This theatrical form of ballet includes dialogue and African drumming. Senegal Casamance Ballet Production Company performs at the World Beat Center.

Contact:

Ndeye Bineta Guidiaby

Tel 619/857-9777

**“African music and dance has served
as a catalyst for many other forms of
music and dance.”**

— Ndeye Bineta Guidiaby, Artistic Director

VASANTHI SHENOY

Vasanthi Shenoy performs and teaches a south Indian classical dance style called bharata natyam. Shenoy started studying south Indian classical dance at age six in India. At age 14 she was given the title Natatykala Bhushanam and began performing at colleges and festivals. Today she enjoys performing at dance festivals in San Diego and Los Angeles, and teaches dance and south Indian culture at California State University, San Marcos.

Contact:

Vasanthi Shenoy

Tel 760/750-4184

E-mail vshenoy@mailhost1.csusm.edu

"I love it. I always love it. That's the best I can say. I respect the art."

— Vasanthi Shenoy, Artistic Director



Multidisciplinary

BOMANI DRUM AND DANCE ENSEMBLE

The Bomani Drum and Dance Ensemble is made up of 13 vibrant performers. Six drummers create a festive beat using West African instruments called the djembe and the jun-jun, while seven dancers perform authentic dance rituals like the Mask dance, which is the highest form of dancing in West Africa. This dynamic group has performed at the Wild Animal Park, El Cajon Friendship Festival, and Street Scene.

Contact:

Ron Mtume

PO Box 620159

San Diego, CA 92162

Tel 619/239-7677

E-mail ronmtume@aol.com

Web www.bomani.org

Photo Credit: Ron Mtume



"Music and dance play important roles in African-American culture and that heritage needs to be preserved. "

— Ron Mtume, Artistic Director

HEALI'I'S POLYNESIAN REVIEW

Heali'i's Polynesian Review specializes in the songs and dances of Hawaii, Samoa, Fiji, Tahiti, and New Zealand. Their floor show includes rhythmic sounds of drummers, graceful female dancers, energetic male performers, exciting fire-knife specialists and a talented keiki soloist.

Contact:

Kathy Gore Stanley
5051 Capehart Street
San Diego, CA 92117
Tel 619/275-2259

**"Polynesian dancing is not only entertaining it
can soothe your mind and excite your spirit."**

— Kathy Gore Stanley, Artistic Director



JAMES MAIN

James Main is a gifted Native American drummer, storyteller, and singer. At an early age, Main's Native American family members taught him to embrace his culture. He enjoys performing ceremonial dances like the Grass Dance and playing the hand drum.

Contact:

James Main

1539 Tavern Avenue

Alpine, CA 91901

Tel 619/445-7944

E-mail msingingarrow@aol.com.

Photo Credit: Maja Kiener

"Music is a gift. It is a natural thing for me, and now more than ever, it seems to be in demand."

— James Main, Artistic Director

PASACAT PHILIPPINE PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY

Pasacat is a non-profit cultural arts organization that performs various genres of Filipino folk music and dance. Pasacat has performed at festivals, local schools, churches and museums.

Artistic Director:

Anamaria Labao Cabato

102 East 16th Street

National City, CA 91950

Tel 619/470-4754

Fax 619/470-6659

E-mail pasacat@pasacat.org

Web www.pasacat.org

Photo Credit: Jerry Barizo



“The main reason why I stuck with Philippine dance was that when I saw my first live performance at eight years old, I thought to myself, where in the world can you find a country that has such an abundance of cultural diversity?”

— Anamaria Labao Cabato, Artistic Director



"I love my culture and want everyone to get to know it. We are so far away and there is so much misunderstanding about our culture. It is a very unique way of life and we want people to know what we do and where we come from."

— Charo Monge, Artistic Director

PENA ANDALUZA EN CALIFORNIA

Pena Andaluza en California is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the culture of southern Spain. Flamenco dancing and Spanish singing are two cultural activities that this organization tries to preserve. The group's performers take annual trips to Spain, give workshops and perform locally at folkloric dance festivals.

Contact:

Charo Monge

1628 Fern Street

San Diego, CA 92102

Tel 619/ 234-7897

Web www.andaluza.deperiodistas.net

Photo Credit: Charo Monge

SAMAHAN FILIPINO AMERICAN PERFORMING ARTS

Samahan is a Filipino music and dance company. They perform dances of northern, southern and rural/provincial Philippines. Orchestras include rondalla (a Spanish-influenced string orchestra), gangsa (a northern indigenous orchestra of brass gongs, drums, hard wood sticks, bamboo instruments and flutes), and kulintang (a southern Philippine gong orchestra with Hindu, Arabic and Indo-Malayan roots). Samahan has performed at major theaters, schools and folk festivals around San Diego.

Contact:

Lolita D. Carter, PhD

1442 Hillsmont Drive

El Cajon, CA 92020

Tel 619/444-7528

E-mail lindsay.carter@sdsu.edu



“I organized Samahan because I wanted to expose the outside world to the beautiful and diverse nature of Philippine dance and music. We take great pride in our contribution to the preservation, development and presentation of the Philippine performing arts. ”

— Lolita Carter, Artistic Director

Photo Credit: Jerry Barizo

TEYE SA THIOSANNE AFRICAN DRUM AND DANCE COMPANY

Teye Sa Thiosanne African Drum and Dance company is a non-profit organization that performs a West African Mandinka tradition of music and dance. The company uses authentic West African instruments like the djembe and the dun-dun drums. The company offers drum and dance classes every Saturday and is available for demonstrations.

Contact:

Bernard Thomas

PO Box 621011

San Diego, CA 92162

Tel 619/262-5392

“Members of Teye Sa Thiosanne are very proud to engage in an artistic expression that represents their African heritage. They strive to present the best in African art. ”

— Bernard Thomas, Artistic Director

Cultural Organizations and Resources

ASIAN STORY THEATER

Board President: Kent Brisby
1250 Weaver Street
San Diego, CA 92114

Tel 619/527-2816
Fax 619/527-0877
E-mail kent@asianstorytheater.com

Two goals of the Asian Story Theater project are that students participating in a theatrical experience will enrich their own aesthetic valuing of drama and theater, and that students will begin to understand some major themes, historical periods, and cultural backgrounds related to Asian/Pacific stories.

CENTRO CULTURAL DE LA RAZA

Executive Director: Nancy Rodriguez
2125 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92101-4792

Tel 619/235-6135
Fax 619/595-0034
E-mail centronr@pacbell.net

The Centro Cultural de La Raza is the largest and oldest ethnically specific arts and cultural organization in the city and focuses on the creation, presentation and promotion of the art and culture of Mexicans, Chicanos and Native Americans in the border region.

CENTER FOR WORLD MUSIC

Executive Director: Alex Khalil
2225 9th Street
Olivenhain, CA 92024

Tel 619/576-7763
Fax 619/637-7411
Web centerforworldmusic.org

The Center for World Music provides quality experiences and educational opportunities in traditional ethnic performing arts. The center's activities include large concerts, smaller home concerts, special events, international tours, classes, workshops, community projects, and assistance to local folk and traditional artists.

FOLK ARTS RARE RECORDS

Owners: Lou and Virginia Curtiss
3611 Adams Avenue
San Diego, CA 92116

Tel 619/282-7833
E-mail vcurtissphd@yahoo.com

Folk Arts Rare Records is a music store that can satisfy a wide variety of lyrical tastes including country, pop, folk, swing guitar, bluegrass, zydeco, gospel, Vaudeville, Broadway and reggae. In addition, they also carry Brazilian jazz, African music, Brazilian guitar and Celtic music. Owners Lou and Virginia Curtis not only sell cassettes and CDs, but they have an abundance of old vinyl LPs.

ICARUS PUPPET COMPANY

Executive Director: Rosemary Tyrrell
4445 35th Street
San Diego, CA 92116-3525

Tel 619/563-5252
E-mail icaruspuppet@gateway.net

Icarus Puppet Company embraces puppetry as a form of serious theater and invites the audience to join in the experience. Icarus accomplishes this by blending many art forms to create dynamic programs including music, dance, masks, storytelling and acting.

INDIAN HUMAN RESOURCE CENTER

Executive Director: Juan Castellanos
4040 30th Street Suite A
San Diego, CA 92104

Tel 619/281-5964
Fax 619/821-1466
E-mail ihrc5@onp.wdsc.org

The Indian Human Resource Center helps provide employment opportunities for American Indians. The center is available to give referrals for American Indian musicians and dancers. The center also provides pow-wow schedules.

JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

Executive Director: Margo Sharpe-Samuels
2125 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92101-4792

Tel 619/232-2721
Fax 619/232-0917
E-mail jfgsd@earthlink.net

The Japanese Friendship Garden produces ongoing exhibitions and cultural events that offer residents and visitors opportunities to experience authentic Japanese art and cultural traditions.

MARTIME MUSEUM ASSOCIATION OF SAN DIEGO

Executive Director: Raymond Ashley
1492 North Harbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92101

Tel 619/234-9153
Fax 619/234-8345
Web sdmaritime.org

The mission of the San Diego Maritime Museum is to serve as the community memory of our seafaring experience by collecting, preserving, and presenting our rich maritime heritage and historic connection with the Pacific world.

MINGEI INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF WORLD FOLK ART

Director: Martha Longenecker
Casa del Prado/ Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92101

Tel 619/ 239-0003
Fax 619/239-0605
E-mail mingei@mingei.org

Mingei International is a museum that furthers the understanding of arts of people from all cultures of the world through exhibitions of traditional and contemporary folk art, craft and design.

MUSIC? YES!/THE AGE OF REASON

Director: Anthony L. Ackee
1645 San Miguel
Spring Valley, CA 91977-4455

Tel 619/306-2018
E-mail babbackee@home.com
Web www.thinkmusik.com

Music? Yes!/The Age of Reason uses music and critical thinking to employ a value based approach for life challenges faced by adolescents. Using music as a catalyst for change, as well as a key for gaining access to the inner sanctums of our youth, this organization helps teenagers address problem areas such as parental conflicts, peer pressure, gender issues and substance abuse.

PERSIAN CULTURAL CENTER

Executive Director: M.J. Cohen, MD

PO Box 500914

San Diego, CA 92150-0914

Tel 858/653-0336

Fax 858/643-0336

Web www.pccsd.org

The Persian Cultural Center promotes the cultural awareness and understanding of Iranian heritage through instruction in language, the presentation of music, dance, literature and poetry and the demonstration of customs specific to the Persian culture.

POLSKI SALON ARTYSTYCZNY W SAN DIEGO (POLISH ARTS AND CULTURE SOCIETY IN SAN DIEGO)

Director: Dr. Jerzy Barankiewicz

12457 Carmel Cape

San Diego, CA 92130

Tel 858/792-7293

E-mail jbaranki@aol.com

Established in 1992, Polski Salon Artystyczny is a Polish organization that is dedicated to promoting and preserving Polish culture and heritage. Acting as an art and culture club, PSASD organizes and hosts concerts, exhibitions and meetings with Polish artists and intellectuals.

SAN DIEGO BLACK STORYTELLERS ASSOCIATION

President: Annjennette McFarlin
110 Orange Drive
Chula Vista, CA 91911

Tel 619 422-7053
E-mail mcfarlin@home.com
Web www.sdblackstorytellers.org

The primary focus of the Black Storytellers Association of San Diego is to preserve and celebrate the unique culture of African-Americans through an art form that reaches back thousands of years to the tribal ancestors of Africa. Founded in 1998, this troupe of professional storytellers performs at a variety of venues throughout the city of San Diego including libraries, senior centers, parks and playgrounds, schools and educational sites.

SAN DIEGO CENTER FOR JEWISH CULTURE

Executive Director: Jacqueline Siegal
4126 Executive Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

Tel 858/457-3161
Fax 858/457-2422
E-mail jas@lfjcc.com

The center's cultural arts program offers diverse and unique arts opportunities in the form of concerts, drama, dance, art tours and films. These opportunities are open to the entire community.

SAN DIEGO CENTER FOR THE MOVING ARTS

Director: Joseph Bennett
3255 Fifth Avenue
San Diego, CA 92103

Tel 619/298-2687
E-mail thecenter@movingarts.net

SDCMA has a large venue/dance studio for world music and dance performances, classes, and concerts. In addition, the center hosts live world music dance parties many Saturday evenings and weekly Wednesday and Friday night dance jams featuring a world music disc jockey.

SAN DIEGO CHINESE CENTER

Director: Cham W. Louie
428 Third Avenue
San Diego, CA 92101

Tel 619/234-4447
Fax 619/234-0442
E-mail michellelouie@home.com

The San Diego Chinese Center sponsors cultural and arts activities that contribute to the inter-cultural development of the greater San Diego community, as well as a variety of social services directed toward seniors, children and new immigrants in the Chinese and Asian-American communities.

SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY/ CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Executive Director: Alexander Chuang

Tel 619/338-9888

404 Third Avenue

Fax 619/338-9889

San Diego, CA 92101

E-mail sdchumsus@earthlink.net

The Chinese Historical Society and Chinese Historical Museum collect, preserve, interpret, educate and appreciate the history of the Chinese American experience and the history, art and culture of China.

SAN DIEGO DANCE ALLIANCE

200 West Island Street

Tel 619/230-8623

San Diego, CA 92101

Fax 619/233-8796

The San Diego Dance Alliance assists in the preservation of ethnic dance by showcasing a variety of ethnic traditions in Nations of San Diego International Dance Festival, the largest ethnic dance festival in Southern California.

SAN DIEGO EARLY MUSIC SOCIETY

Managing Director: Evelyn Lakoff
3510 Dove Court
San Diego, CA 92103

Tel 619/291-8246
Fax 619/688-1684
E-mail sdems@home.com

The San Diego Early Music Society exists to further the appreciation of early music (pre-1700). Using authentic instruments, this organization performs around San Diego and presents the annual San Diego Folk Heritage Festival.

SAN DIEGO FOLK HERITAGE SOCIETY

Chairfolk: Dick Jay
1112 Judy Lane
Cardiff, CA 92007

Tel 858/566-4040
E-mail sdfh@tgs.com
Web www.sdfolkheritage.org

This non-profit organization is dedicated to preserving and promoting the folk arts in Southern California. The society publishes the quarterly, *Blue Notes*, featuring a listing of concert and folk events in San Diego.

SAN DIEGO INSTITUTE FOR ARTS EDUCATION

Executive Director: Margo Sharpe-Samuels
2150 W Washington Street Suite 208
San Diego, CA 92110

Tel 619/260-1594
Fax 619/260-1595
Web www.sdartsed.org

This institute creates a partnership between classroom teachers and professional artists who work together to explore the four major areas of art, dance, theatre, music and visual art in order to nurture and develop aesthetic and perceptual skills in students.

SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF MAN

Executive Director: Douglas Sharon
1350 El Prado
San Diego, CA 92101

Tel 619/239-2001
Fax 619/239-2749
Web www.museumofman.org

The Museum of Man collects, preserves and interprets the material culture, physical, anthropology, folklore and linguistics of the aboriginal peoples of the western Americas by means of exhibits, education programs and publications.

WORLD BEAT CULTURAL CENTER

Executive Director: Makeda Dread Cheatom
2100 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92101

Tel 619/230-1190
Fax 619/325-1337
Web www.worldbeatcenter.org

The World Beat Center promotes and presents African, Caribbean and other third world styles, in a variety of art, music and dance programs at its Balboa Park facility and throughout San Diego.

YOUNG AUDIENCES OF SAN DIEGO

Executive Director: Hilliard Harper
4007 Camino del Rio South Suite 212
San Diego, CA 92101-1661

Tel 619/282-7599
Fax 619/282-7598
Web www.yasandiego.org

Young Audiences integrates the arts into education for children and youth. The group contracts a variety of folk and traditional visual and performing artists to perform and facilitate workshops in San Diego.

Annual Ethnic Events and Festivals

JANUARY

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO MULTI-CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Organizer Centre City Development Corporation
Location West Harbor Drive
Contact Sheila Hardin 619/533-7146

LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Organizer El Cajon Boulevard Business Improvement Association
Location El Cajon Boulevard (Between 54th and Fairmount)
Contact Maryanne Vancio 619/283-3608

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PAGEANT AND PARADE

Organizer Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Location West Harbor Drive from Grape to Pacific Highway
Contact Robert Matthews 619/264-0542

NATIONS OF SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL

Organizer San Diego Dance Alliance
Location Downtown
Contact 619/230-8623

FEBRUARY

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Organizer Indo-Chinese Association of San Diego
Location University Avenue between 45th & Chamoune Street
Contact Abraham To 619/283-3233

KUUMBA FEST

Organizers San Diego Repertory Theatre/African American Council
Location Lyceum Theatre/Horton Plaza
Contact Creg Huisenga 619/544-1000 ext. 617

LUNAR NEW YEAR "TET" CELEBRATION

Organizer Vietnamese Federation of San Diego
Location Linda Vista
Contact Tien Bui 619/277-6147

SAN DIEGO CHINESE NEW YEAR FOOD AND CULTURAL FAIRE

Organizer San Diego Chinese Center
Location Gaslamp Quarter (Asian Thematic District)
Contact Cham Louie 619/234-4447

MARCH

MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION AND PARADE

Organizer	Gaslamp Quarter Association	
Location	Gaslamp Quarter	
Contact	Teresa McTigue	619/233-5227

SAN DIEGO LATINO FILM FESTIVAL

Organizer	Media Arts Center San Diego, Inc.	
Location	Mission Valley	
Contact	Ethan van Thillo	619/230-1938

SHAMROCK 2002

Organizer	Gaslamp Quarter Historical Foundation	
Location	Gaslamp Quarter	
Contact	Tracey Silberman	619/233-4692

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE AND FESTIVAL

Organizer	Irish Congress of Southern California	
Location	Fifth Avenue & Sixth Avenue between Juniper & Upas Streets	
Contact		619/299- 7812

APRIL

ADAMS AVENUE ROOTS FESTIVAL

Organizer Adams Avenue Business Association
Location Park Boulevard & Presidents Way
Contact Marco Anguiano 619/444-7528

CHICANO PARK DAY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Organizer Chicano Park Steering Committee
Location Logan Avenue & National Avenue
Contact Tomasa Camarillo 619/563-4661

KAIBIGANG FILIPINO CULTURAL CELEBRATION

Organizer UCSD Filipino Culture Club
Location UCSD Campus
Contact 858/534-7763

KHMER CULTURE FESTIVAL

Organizer Cambodian Dancers of San Diego
Location Colina Park
Contact Sarak Suon 619/688-0878

LINDA VISTA MULTI-CULTURAL FAIR

Organizer Linda Vista Multi-Cultural Fair, Inc.
Location 6900 Linda Vista Road
Contact Man Phan 858/560-0871

MAY

LIPINSKY FAMILY SAN DIEGO JEWISH ARTS FESTIVAL

Organizer San Diego Repertory Theatre
Location Lyceum Theatre
Contact Creg Huisenga 619/544-1000 ext. 617

OLD TOWN FIESTA CINCO DE MAYO

Organizer Historic Old Town
Location Old Town
Contact Mike McLaughlin 619/296-4690

PORTUGUESE PARADE & FESTIVAL

Organizer St. Agnes Church
Location Old Town
Contact Andrea Deluz 619/223-5880

SAN DIEGO AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURAL DAYS

Organizer Indian Human Resource Center
Location Balboa Park
Contact Lylia Arguilez 619/281-5964

JUNE

CITY HEIGHTS INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE CELEBRATION

Organizer City Heights Community Development Corporation
Location City Heights
Contact Jay Powell 619/584-1535

DIA DE SAN JUAN SALSA FESTIVAL

Organizer Latin Flavor Productions
Location Mariner's Point (Over the Line sand area)
Contact Tommy Rosas 619/687-1444

INDIAN FAIR

Organizer Museum of Man
Location Museum of Man, Balboa Park
Contact Shirley Philips 619/239-2001

SAN DIEGO BLUES FESTIVAL

Organizer Blues Lovers United of San Diego
Location Downtown
Contact Michael Kinsman 619/283-9576

ST. SPYRIDON GREEK FESTIVAL

Organizer St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church
Location Alley behind Park Boulevard & Indiana Street
Contact 619/696-0499

JULY

FOLK FEST

Organizer	Saint George Serbian Orthodox Church	
Location	University of San Diego	
Contact	Father Vraskovic	619/276-5827

GRUNION FESTIVAL

Organizer	Poyomkawichum Kaamalam	
Location	Pacific Beach	
Contact	Abel Silvas	858/274-1326

LATIN MUSIC FESTIVAL

Organizer	Sherman Heights Community Center	
Location	Sherman Heights	
Contact	Estela Klink	619/232-5181

AUGUST

ENCANTO STREET FAIR & CULTURAL ARTS FESTIVAL

Organizer Encanto Community Fund, Inc.
Location Encanto
Contact Tayari Howard 619/266-0936

INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL

Organizer Balboa Park Performing Folk Dancers
Location Casa del Prado Theater (Balboa Park)
Contact Jerry Waddell 619/469-8015

LATIN AMERICAN FESTIVAL

Organizer Bazaar del Mundo
Location Bazaar del Mundo Courtyard (Old Town)
Contact Jerry Waddell 619/469-8015

PHILIPPINE ART FESTIVAL

Organizer Samahan Philippine Dance Company
Location Normal Heights
Contact Lolita Carter 619/444-7528

SEPTEMBER

ADAMS AVENUE STREET FAIR

Organizer	Adams Avenue Business Association	
Location	Normal Heights	
Contact	Scott Kessler	619/282-7329

CABRILLO FESTIVAL

Organizer	Cabrillo Festival	
Location	Cabrillo National Monument	
Contact	Angela Giglitto	619/231-2617

FIESTAS PATRIAS: RECORDANDO MEXICO CELEBRATION

Organizer	Sherman Heights Community Center	
Location	Sherman Heights	
Contact	Estela Klink	619/232-5181

SERBIAN FESTIVAL

Organizer	Saint George Serbian Orthodox Church	
Location	3025 Denver St.	
Contact	Father Vraskovic	619/276-5827

STREET SCENE

Organizer	Rob Hagey Productions	
Location	Gaslamp Quarter	
Contact	Rob Hagey	619/557-8490

OCTOBER

ARMENIAN FOOD AND DANCE FESTIVAL

Organizer Saint John Gorabed Armenian Church
Location 4473 30th Street
Contact 619/284-7179

TIERRASANTA OKTOBERFEST AND TIERRAFEST

Organizer Kiwanis Club of Tierrasanta
Location Tierrasanta
Contact Hani Shatila 858/268-0044

NOVEMBER

FULA BULA FEST

Organizer Semisi and Fula Bula
Location Nautical Bean
Contact Semisi Ma'u 760/439-2235

DECEMBER

PAROL FESTIVAL

Organizer	Pasacat	
Location	St. Rita's School Annex Auditorium	
Contact	Anamaria Cabato	619/477-3383

PASADA AL ESTILO JALISCO

Organizer	Ballet Folklorico Jalisciene	
Location	Casa Familiar Civic Center	
Contact	Eva Pacheco	619/662-2845

Acknowledgments

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